THE DISSEMINATOR

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

ISSN:1209-2473

V.6, N.5, May 1999
An electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library
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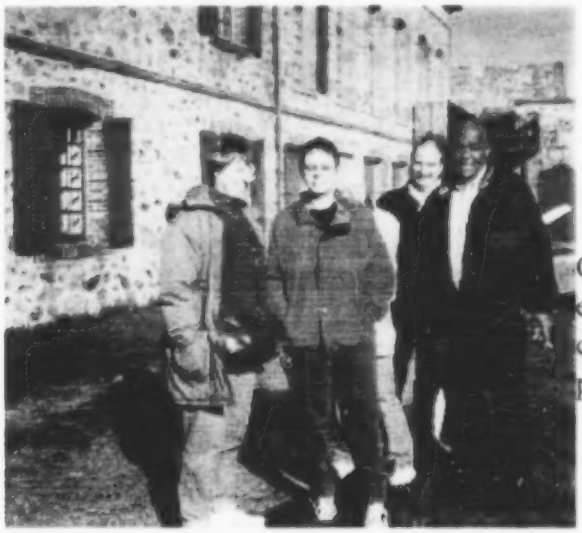
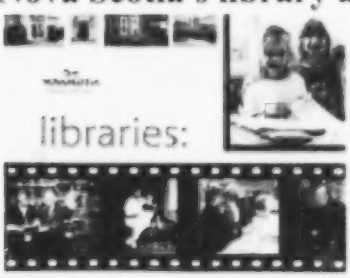
LBANS annual conference provides valuable information to library board members

Members of the Library Board Association of Nova Scotia attended three workshops dealing with a variety of board-related topics during their annual conference May 14-16 in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Lawyer Boe MacIntyre spoke of the "due diligence" that library boards need to demonstrate in a workshop entitled Occupational Health and Board Liability. New and Improved Branch Development: Procedures, Financing, Community Cooperation, presented by Rudi Denham, focussed on effective fund raising strategies for libraries. Val Marshall, President of Friends of Canadian Libraries presented Board Training & LBANS/CLTA Issues.



Anne Ripley, Peggy Hiscock, Gary Pentz and Norman Paris enjoy the sunny, although quite chilly, weather at Louisbourg prior to the LBANS banquet.

Nova Scotia's library advocacy video premieres at LBANS conference



Members of the Library Board Association of Nova Scotia were treated to the premiere presentation of Nova Scotia's first library advocacy video, *libraries: where the future begins*, at a candlelit banquet in Louisbourg during their annual conference. Minister of Education and Culture Wayne Gaudet introduced the video during his address to LBANS members, recognizing the importance of board members and trustees as advocates for their libraries.

The video will be shown to municipalities, service clubs and other interested parties across the province, and marketed to libraries across the country. The video focuses on the important and rapidly expanding role libraries play within the communities they serve. Using personal accounts from actual

library patrons, *libraries: where the future begins* shows how much libraries have adapted and modified their services to take full advantage of the boom in information technology. The video is available free of charge to residents and organizations across Nova Scotia. For more information, contact Judy Naugler, Nova Scotia Provincial Library; phone (902) 424-2454, fax (902) 424-0633; or e-mail jnaugler@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

Council of Regional Librarians meets in Cape Breton

Two days of fruitful discussions followed the LBANS conference when the Council of Regional Librarians met for their annual meeting at the Highland Heights Inn, Iona, Cape Breton. Internet filtering, library registrations and the selection of book vendors were all topics on the agenda. Library legislation, the funding formula review process, standards and the need for a new regional library strategic plan were also covered. Plans are underway for various follow-up meetings to take place over the summer months to further develop these topics.

A special dinner presentation was made to Marion Pape, Provincial Librarian, who has accepted a position with Industry Canada in Ottawa. CORL members gather to offer their best wishes to departing Provincial Librarian Marion Pape (centre) during their annual meeting. *Photo by Carole Compton-Smith.*

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library draws large crowds for International Tulip Festival

Wonderful weather, lots of people and glorious flowers combined to make the 2nd annual International Tulip Festival in Truro a great success the weekend of May 14. The Truro main branch was the centre of many activities, and it was clear that the library was definitely a community centre as well as a part of the business community.

The main branch conference room was decorated and filled with music to welcome the American Consul and business sponsors for the festival. More than 100 floral paintings, entries in the Art in Bloom contest, provided a wonderful backdrop.

On Saturday, the area outside the library filled with tents, tables for not-for-profit group displays, music and food; but other than an increase in the number of people through the library, all this activity didn't

interfere with daily operations. The festival gave the Friends of the Library a chance to raise money, and gave staff the opportunity to tell people about the new circulation desk and library card.

The colours of the tulips in front of the library ranged from white, to pink to a rich red, and many people told festival organizers that the tulips in front of the Truro branch were some of the best in town. Staff at the library found that being part of a community economic development initiative such as the festival has been a very positive experience. Visit the web site at **www.nstulips.com**

Regional Libraries prepare to launch 1999 Summer Reading Program

It's time to dig out your moon boots, because June 21 marks the beginning of the province wide Blast Off Week for the 1999 Summer Reading Program. The slogan Launch *Yourself into A Good Book/ Lancez-Vous Dans La Lecture* and the colourful outer space logo promote this year's theme.

This year's program features a visit to each of the nine regional libraries by astronaut Steve MacLean August 18-20. The Summer Reading Program will be publicized by all the library regions through the local media and, to encourage schools to participate, posters have been sent to all elementary curriculum coordinators in the Nova Scotia regional school boards. More details about the activities planned for Blast Off Week will be available soon from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library web site.

Arlene Watts, Special Services, counts out buttons to ship to libraries across the province as the Summer Reading Program prepares for lift-off.

Nova Scotia Provincial Library News

Staffing Notes

Marion Pape has accepted a two-year secondment to Industry Canada to work with the Urban Community Access Program. She will be based in Ottawa. Elizabeth Armstrong has been appointed Acting Provincial Librarian as of May 25, 1999.

Farewell from Marion Pape, NS Provincial Librarian

I have been saying farewell to friends and colleagues across the province throughout May and it has certainly helped me to focus on what my experience in Nova Scotia has meant to me. I am very excited about moving on to work with the Urban CAP but am feeling a sadness about leaving such a vibrant regional library system and a network of good friends. My experiences and learning have been quite profound and it is all very real to me.

Libraries are in the process of transforming their services and Nova Scotia libraries are playing a leadership role in ensuring equitable access to information. The transformation includes creating a pro-active, responsive library system through the cooperation of all of the different players in libraries. Cooperation does benefit everyone and the tradition is strong in Nova Scotia. Libraries are a part of the extended family of communities, sharing what they have with everyone who needs it. The success which we have seen in this province is all about making connections, networking with people and using technology wisely. We have been blessed with an extraordinary creativeness in our libraries that will guarantee a bright future. I know that my path will cross that of many of you and I look forward to that. All the best to you and keep advocating for libraries, information access and cultural expression.

Carole Compton-Smith is now Acting Coordinator of Technical Services. Andrea John has accepted the position of Librarian in the Department Library, replacing Kathryn Arbuckle. The position of Coordinator of User Services is currently being advertised.

Elizabeth Parnell and David Barteaux have been appointed to Library Assistant positions with the Access to Library Holdings Project, effective May 10. Both have been working as casual staff in Technical Services for some time. Stacey Cote, formerly employed by Cape Breton Regional Library on their RECON project, has taken the casual position formerly held by Elizabeth. Nadine Day, formerly employed by Eastern Counties Regional Library is now working for Cape Breton.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library's User Services division welcomed student Jennifer Snair into their midst May 10 to June 4 as she undertook the on-the-job training component of the Library and Information Technician program at the Nova Scotia Community College. Jennifer helped Carol Morris, Head of Information Services, in the User Services Section. She will be returning to NSCC in the fall of 1999 to complete the Technician program.

Training Notes

Automation Training News

Michael Vandenburg has been hired in a six month casual position to work with Johanna Cooper providing MultiLIS training and support. With MultiLIS implementation well underway, Michael is a welcome addition to the team. This new training position was created with the approval of the Automation Management Committee and the Automation Working Group at April's joint meeting.

Throughout March and April, staff of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) received training in the use of the circulation module. PARL staff are preparing for the launch of automated circulation beginning in early June. Circulation module training for the South Shore Regional Library has been postponed pending the installation of the second phase of the upgrade to version 11.2 of the MultiLIS software.

Marking another milestone, Cumberland Regional Library staff received patron database training in late April and have since begun building their patron database in MultiLIS. Staff from the South Shore Regional Library received additional Policies Management training in April, with a further session to follow in June. Staff from the Colchester-East Hants Regional Library received training in cataloguing paperbacks in mid-May. Michael Vandenburg will be getting his feet wet by providing support for questions and problems arising from this training.

Reference Training News

The Regional Libraries reference contact group is currently evaluating three additional reference databases for possible subscription, *Canadian MAS FullTEXT Elite* and *Health Source Plus* on EbscoHost, and *Canadian Business & Current Affairs Fulltext Reference* from Micromedia. Two database evaluation meetings were held May 19 and 20 in the Training Room at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, where demonstrations of the systems were given followed by hands-on evaluation of each database.

Representatives from various schools and community college campuses attended another database evaluation meeting May 25 to assess the Proquest databases from Bell & Howell Information and Learning (formerly UMI).

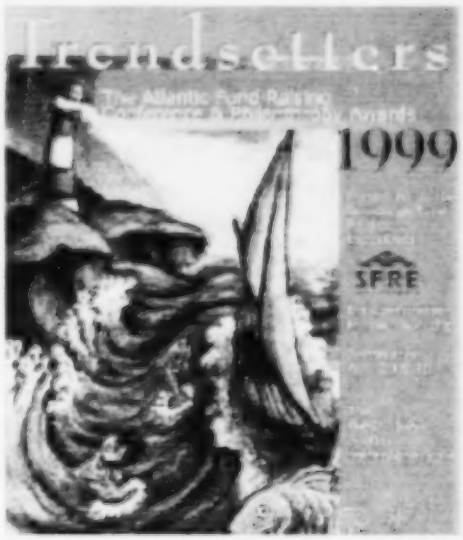
Librarians from the User Services Section held seven training sessions for public library staff and Nova Scotia Community College staff in May - one on Legal Resources, three on Statistics Canada and two on Tourism/Recreation. The training sessions took place in Yarmouth, Bridgewater, Bridgetown and at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. If there is a program you would like to know more about, please contact Gillian Webster at 902-424-2478 or webstegs@gov.ns.ca.

Association of Records Managers and Administrators Seminar

The Halifax Chapter of the Association of Records Managers and Administrators International held their spring seminar Keys for the 21st Century at the Citadel Inn, Halifax May 14. Nova Scotia Provincial Library staff members Dale MacMillan and Don Goss attended. Dale and Don are enrolled in records management courses at the Nova Scotia Community College. Workshops were presented on various topics including Legal Implications of Y2K by Jamie S. Campbell of Cox Hanson O' Reilly Matheson and Investigation and court procedures: guidelines for records managers by Dennis Kelly, A/Executive Director of Police & Public Safety, and Marc Chisholm, Associate Deputy Director, Public Prosecution Service. This workshop outlined how a search warrant is obtained, the types of evidence required, the trial process and preparation for court. The afternoon session was a lively round-table discussion led by

Dr. Joseph Litven, President of Development Associates entitled A Proactive Approach to Change.

Fund Raising Conference fosters information exchange



Delegates from libraries across the province, including Peggy Hiscock from the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library; Janet Pelley and Wendy Robichaud from Colchester East-Hants; Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin from Western Counties Regional Library and Sara Underwood from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, attended the annual conference for the Society of Fund Raising Executives. The conference, held April 28-30 at the Westin Hotel in Halifax, included several seminars of interest to library staff, including Accountability in Fundraising; Stewardship and Donor Recognition, and Accreditation for Fund Raisers. An excellent add-on session on Planned Giving, presented by Lorna Sommers, Planned Giving Officer with McMaster University, provided considerable insight into the cultivation and nurturing of donors.

Atlantic Provinces Library Association Conference

Preconference workshop teaches valuable lessons

The imperative for developing effective media and crisis management strategies was highlighted in a one-day workshop entitled Media Training for Library Staff and Board Members in St. John May 27.

The workshop, conducted by communications consultant Milton Carman, was a continuing education session offered by the Canadian Library Association in conjunction with the Atlantic Provinces Library Association conference. Participants received an insider's account of how the media works, and learned about formulating media strategies for both broad and single issues. The afternoon was spent learning crisis management techniques with role-playing exercise.

Four representatives from Nova Scotian libraries were put through their paces at the workshop. Theresa Workman, South Shore Regional Library; Betty Thomas, a trustee with the Halifax Regional Library; and Carole Compton-Smith and Sara Underwood, both from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, participated in the lively afternoon session, playing the roles of spin-doctors and reporters as strategies to handle a hypothetical crisis were developed. Mock press conferences were conducted and taped, then replayed to provide feedback on performance. Although the process was exhausting, participants agreed that the

exercise had provided valuable insight into dealing with the media.

Conference features movies, stars, and information

Five Provincial Library staff attended the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Conference, Shore Leave '99. The twin highlights of the conference came at the beginning and end of the weekend. Bill Richardson, well known as host on CBC's *Richardson's Roundup*, gave the keynote address, his witticisms encompassing everything from Loyalist murals to dragons in the library. Sunday afternoon, seasoned APLA member Suzanne Sexty showed her home-made video of clips taken from films that featured library workers, in a session called Everything I Need to Know I Learned at the Movies. Suzanne's presentation made everyone feel as though they'd walked into Hollywood heaven and could return home in good form.

Gillian Webster attended several interesting sessions, including Mentoring for Tomorrow's Library Leaders, in which Ilga Leja, Librarian at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, focussed on the merits of finding a mentor or adopting a protégé. Gillian's favourite session was the author reading by David Adams Richards, who read from his latest book, *Lines on the Water* for which he won his second Governor General's Literary Award.

Carole Compton-Smith presented a session on the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award to a lively audience which included representation from schools, libraries and one of the current short-listed authors, Elizabeth MacLeod. Carole made a further presentation at a session entitled Career Development for Non-Librarians. Gary Archibald, library board member for Western Counties Regional Library who is currently serving a term on the board of the Canadian Library Trustees Association, gave a presentation on Library Advocacy using the new Nova Scotia video, *libraries: where the future begins* for part of it.

A session entitled Career Development for Non-Librarians was presented by Lesley Beckett Balcom, University of New Brunswick; Carole Compton-Smith; and Jocelyne Thompson, New Brunswick Library Service. All three speakers offered good advice for career development such as participating in library associations and e-lists, networking, reading library journals, training to stay up-to-date in the field, and seeking opportunities.

The final consensus was that although the job market is tight, there are library jobs out there for the trained and well prepared. The conference was full of social events, and great credit goes to the conveners, Susan Collins and Ian Wilson, both of Saint John. Keep an eye out for APLA's new executive list and other features on the Web at **http://www.stmarys.ca/partners/apla/**

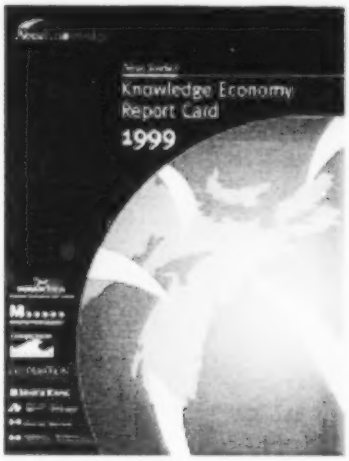
Hackmatack Finalists on the Web

The Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award is an Atlantic Canadian book award that allows children to choose their favourite Canadian and Atlantic Canadian books. Over the next six issues, one book from each of the 1999-2000 Fiction Shortlist and the 1999-2000 Non-Fiction Shortlist will be highlighted in this feature.

In this issue, the fiction title is *Secret Under the Whirlpool* by Elaine Breault Hammond (Reading Level: Grade 5), and the non-fiction title is *Acts of Courage* edited by John Melady (Reading Level: Grade 6).Visit the Hackmatack page and read the book descriptions at **www.library.ns.ca/hackmatack/books.html**

Hot Tips & Updates

*Nova*Knowledge releases its Knowledge Economy Report Card 1999



The second annual *Nova*Knowledge Knowledge Economy Summit was held in Halifax on May 26. Carole Compton-Smith attended a portion of the day-long seminar, and received copies of the booklet, *Nova Scotia's Knowledge Economy Report Card 1999.* An important finding in this year's report is that although Nova Scotia is an excellent location for businesses, the low wage economy creates a "brain drain" of skilled employees. Also, libraries and schools in Nova Scotia are shown to lead the country in the use of computer communications. Visit the website at **www.novaknowledge.ns.ca** for more information.

Winners of Atlantic Writing Awards announced

The Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Library Association have announced the names of the 1999 Atlantic Writing Award winners. The winners were announced at a reception at the Great Hall, University Club, Dalhousie University on May 28.The winner of the Evelyn Richardson Memorial Prize is Silver Donald Cameron for *The Living Beach* (Macmillan Canada); John Steffler received the Atlantic Poetry Prize for *That Night We Were Ravenous* (McClelland & Stewart); The Ann Connor Brimer Award for Children's Literature went to Janet McNaughton for *Make or Break Spring* (Tuckamore); and Wayne Johnston received his second Thomas Head Raddall Fiction Award for *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams* (Knopf Canada).

For more information about the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia, please call: Jane Buss or Joanne Merriam, WFNS (902)423-9116 Fax (902) 422-0881, visit the WFNS website at **http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Culture/WFNS** or e-mail: writers1@fox.nstn.ca.

Dartmouth Book and Writing Awards winners announced

The winners of this year's Dartmouth Book & Writing Awards were announced at a reception and reading May 12. The awards honour the best Canadian literature featuring Nova Scotia and its people, and recognize the valuable contribution writers make to our cultural heritage. The winner of the $1,200 Jarislowski-Fraser Limited Award for Fiction was Lynn Coady for *Strange Heaven* (published by Goose Lane Editions). James and Rowena Mahar won the $1,200 Knight, Bain, Seath and Holbrook Award for Non-Fiction for *Too Many to Mourn* (published by Nimbus). Dartmouth Student Writing Awards went to Amanda King, Grade 3, Northbrook School; Scott Low, Grade 5, South Woodside School; Brianne Wartman, Grade 6, Brookhouse School; Kimberly Piccot, Grade 8, Admiral Westphal School; Laura Ann Ross, Grade 12, Dartmouth High School; and Amanda Lardner, Grade 9, Prince Arthur Jr. High (French Immersion winner).

Halifax Library Association Annual General Meeting

The Halifax Library Association held its Annual General Meeting in the Faculty Lounge at St. Mary's University May 5. Approximately 20 members attended the meeting, which was followed by a wine and cheese reception prepared by Scanway Catering. Among the programs offered through the association this past year were two tours, one of the vaults of the Nova Scotia Archives and one of the Pier 21 space. For more information on HLA, contact Barbara Nelke, Past President, at nelkeba@gov.ns.ca or telephone 424-6084.

Nova Scotia Library Association Conference taking place this fall

Plans are underway for the NSLA annual conference hosted by the Annapolis Valley Regional Library to be held October 1-3. This year's conference, *Remembering the Three Rs: Reading, Research and Recreation*, will be held at the Old Orchard Inn in Wolfville. Friday night's reception at Horton High School will be followed by a tour of Acadia University Library and Wolfville Public Library. Instead of a Saturday evening banquet, there will be entertainment at the Barn at the Old Orchard Inn.

An interesting feature of the conference will be the vendor displays set up in a room adjoining the dining room. The vendors' products include books, videos, library materials, mobile branch vehicles, computers and software. Product demonstrations will take place during the two hour lunch.

Workshops will cover a variety of topics including desktop publishing; legal issues surrounding material accessed via the Internet; researching Nova Scotia History; preparing performance evaluations; and procedures for interviewing prospective staff. A session on mobile branch service will include a tour of a "connected" bus.

Conference packages will be mailed to members by the end of June. For further information, contact co-chairs Charlotte Janes & Wendy Trimper at 902-665-2995 or visit the website: **http://www.library.ns.ca/regionals/avr/index.htm**

New BLNS Listserv provides information on expanding professional collection

A new library listserv, **BLNS-L**,has recently been created by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library to alert

staff in the library community to the latest books, videos and serial titles added to its growing professional collection. This listserv will also be used to make suggestions for additions to the collection. If you want to keep up-to-date on our collection, you are cordially invited to join this new listserv.

To subscribe to BLNS-L:

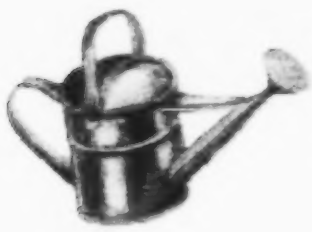
Send a message to listserv@nshpl.library.ns.ca:

Leave the subject line blank

Write "subscribe BLNS-L <your name>" in the body of the message.

For more information about BLNS-L, contact Frank Oram at 424-2480, or e-mail foram@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

Reference on the Net



The following reference questions were referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries, and were answered from resources found on the Internet.

Q: Would like the publisher's address and subscription information for East Coast Gardener magazine.

A: At the AtlaVista search engine at **http://www.altavista.net/** put in "east coast gardener" and this turns up a page entitled "How to subscribe to East Coast Gardener" at **http://www.klis.com/fundy/ecg/subscribe.htm** This is part of the web site for the magazine, the homepage is located at **http://www.klis.com/fundy/ecg/home.htm**

Q: Would like information on how to construct golf greens.

A: At the Savvy search engine at **http://www.savvysearch.com/** the keywords "golf course green construction" were used and this located the United States Golf Association homepage at **http://www.usga.org/** The "Green Section" at **http://www.usga.org/green/** has the fulltext of "USGA Recommendations for a Method of Putting Green Construction" in the Publications Section under Golf Course Management - Greens.

LINKed

This month, we will take a look at genealogical sites on the World Wide Web. There's a wealth of genealogical information available on the Internet, so it was difficult to choose the sites to write about. Some of the main sites for Canadian and Nova Scotian genealogical information are listed below. Most of them have links to other sites.

Canada GenWeb Project at **http://www.rootsweb.com/~canwgw/** is a bilingual site where Canadian genealogical sites are collected into one entry point on the Internet. Sites are organized by province with links to the GenWeb Projects for each province and territory. There are also links to the

USGenWeb Project and the WorldGenWeb Project as well as links to other Canadian genealogical sites. The Nova Scotia GenWeb Project at **http://www.rootsweb.com/~canns/index.html** is a searchable site with information arranged by county as well as under a large number of subject categories.

Bob's Your Uncle, eh! at **http://indexes.mtrl.toronto.on.ca/genealogy/index.htf** is a genealogical search engine which is part of the Toronto Reference Library Web site **http://www.mtrl.toronto.on.ca/**. It provides detailed access to Canadian genealogical information on the World Wide Web. There are drop-down menus which can be used to search.

Canadian Genealogy & History at **http://www.islandnet.com/~jveinot/cghl/cghl.html** was created by Jessica Veinot and has received several awards of recognition. It has a listing of Genealogical and Historical Web sites which are arranged by province as well as links to national sites, personal pages, archives, cemeteries, military sites, United Empire Loyalist sites and organizations and societies.

Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet at **http://www.CyndisList.com/** has a Canadian section located at **http://www.CyndisList.com/canada.htm** and is arranged by General Canadian Sites and Provincial Sites. Cyndi's List has received many awards for excellence. The entire site has more than 41,700 links categorized and cross-referenced in more than 100 categories.

Highlights of **The Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia** web site at **http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Recreation/GANS/gans_homepage.html** include a subject index to back issues of The Nova Scotia Genealogist, a searchable Index of Members' Surname Interests and a listing of Certified Researchers Available for Hire.

inGeneas at **http://www.ingeneas.com/** is a site created by professional genealogists. It is a commercial site where the creators are selling their research services but there is also some useful information here. The inGeneas Database at **http://www.ingeneas.com/ingeneas/index.html** contains passenger list records for immigrants arriving at Canadian ports between 1748 and 1873, as well as a variety of other immigration records dated from 1748 to 1906. According to the description of the database, it now holds more than 100,000 Canadian passenger and immigration records. The site has been given many awards for excellence, and has links to other useful resources including the National Archives of Canada Miscellaneous Immigration Index at **http://www.ingeneas.com/free/index.html**, a database containing approximately 15,000 names of immigrants from Great Britain who arrived in Canada between 1801 and 1849.

If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at cmorris@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

Professional Reading

This month's column features two books from the professional collection in the subject area of Children's Services. As usual, these books can be borrowed through the regular interlibrary loan channels.

Fasick, Adele M. Managing children's services in the public library. 2nd edition. Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1998. [Call# Prof. 025.1976 Fas]
Many changes have occurred in children's services since the first edition of this book. In the second edition, the author attempts to bring the reader into the next millennium with updated information, examples and ideas for children's services . Fasick emphasizes three main areas: the children's department, the library and the community. Specific topics include children's librarians as managers, public relations, and planning a program of services and networking.

Jones, Dolores Blythe (Editor). Building a special collection of children's literature in your library: identifying, maintaining and sharing rare or collectible items. Chicago: American Library Association, 1998. [Call# 025.2 Bui]
This book of ten essays offers advice on many aspects of collection development, acquisition, preservation, funding and promotion of special collections of children's books in academic or public libraries. Contributors cover such topics as acquiring out-of-print materials; securing a professional appraisal of rare books, the elements of a complete catalogue record, archival preparation of original materials, organizing a friends group, preservation and security, and public relations and programming. This book is intended to serve as a guide to libraries considering whether to establish or continue support for special collections.

Seeking suggestions for new periodical titles
We are currently preparing our annual periodicals order for the Professional Collection and would welcome any suggestions for new titles. Please e-mail your suggestions to Frank Oram: foram@nshpl.library.ns.ca.